GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING A CORE READING PROGRAM RUBRIC

Journeys Kindergarten

Final Review

Directions for use:

- Thoroughly review the core reading program using the corresponding rubric.
- Only evaluate the individual components that correlate with the grade level to review. (Note the placement of the "x" within the grade level columns.)
- Each indicator must receive a score using the following criteria:
 - 2 Exceeds expectations
 - 1 Meets expectations
 - 0 Does not meet expectations

(For any indicator receiving a 0, comments must be provided justifying the score.)

Record the total score for each area in the final row for the section.



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IN	STRUCTIONAL DESIGN (ID)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is there empirical research on this program's efficacy?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	1	
2.	Are resources available to help the teacher understand the rationale for the instructional approach and program strategies (e.g., articles, explanations in the teacher manuals, references, and reliable websites)?	х	X	X	х	х	Х	Х	1	
3.	Does the comprehensive program address the five components of reading (phonological/phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension)?	х	X	х	х	х	х	х	2	The 5 components are a part of every day (opening routines, word work, centers and independent work).
4.	In addition to the five components of reading, are other dimensions of reading such as spelling, writing, oral language, and listening comprehension addressed?	Х	X	Х	Х	х	Х	х	1	Spelling in not a huge focus in K.
5.	Is there a scope and sequence?	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	1	
6.	Are goals and objectives clearly stated?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
7.	Are student materials aligned with instructional objective of the lesson?	х	X	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	1	
8.	Do instructional materials increase in difficulty as students' skills strengthen?	Х	X	Х	X	х	X	χ	2	Leveled readers
9.	Are all lessons and activities (e.g., whole group, small group, and centers) reading-related?	X	X	X	X	Х	X	χ	2	
10.	Is there a clear and logical organization to the lessons in:									
	The order and procedures of each day's lesson?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
	The inclusion of all necessary materials?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
	The consistency of each day's lesson format?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
	Addressing the components of reading every day?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
11.	Is instruction consistently explicit? Is it concise, specific, and related to the objective?	х	X	Х	х	х	х	Х	2	
12.	Are teacher directives highly details to ensure accurate implementation?	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	2	Teachers' directives (in blue) are very scripted and explicit.
13.	Does the lesson format facilitate frequent interactions between teacher and students?	Х	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	Lots of whole group/oral language activities.
14.	Is instruction consistently systematic? Is there a prescribed order for introducing specific skills within each component of reading?	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	Х	2	
15.	Are there coordinated instructional sequences and instructional routines which include:									

	Modeling?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
	Guided practice with feedback?	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	1	
	Student practice and application?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	1	
	Cumulative review?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	1	
16.	Are there many guided practice opportunities for explicit teaching and teacher-directed feedback (for typically progressing readers and more for struggling readers)?	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	1	
17.	Does the program provide clear guidance for the teacher to document student progress and inform instruction?	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	1	Oral and informal assessments are very fluent throughout daily lessons.
18.	Does instruction make a clear connection <i>among</i> all five components?	х	Х	х	Х	X	х	Х	2	
19.	Is scaffolding a prominent part of the lessons?	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
20.	Are instructions for scaffolding specific within each lesson?	х	х	х	X	X	Х	X	2	
21.	Are teachers encouraged to give immediate, specific feedback (corrective or positive)?	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	2	
22.	Is differentiated instruction prominent?	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	2	Struggling readers, on level, advanced, and EL (nice to see large variety of differentiation).
23.	Is instruction differentiated based on assessment?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
24.	Are directions for differentiating instruction specific?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
25.	Is small-group instruction (small teacher-pupil ratio) part of daily instruction?	х	х	х	X	Х	х	Х	2	
26.	Are there guidelines for forming flexible groups based on student progress?	х	х	х	X	X	Х	X	1	
27.	Are enrichment activities included for advanced students?	х	х	х	X	X	X	X	1	
28.	Does the program provide instruction for English Learners?	х	х	х	X	X	X	X	2	
29.	Does the program specify for whom it is appropriate (e.g., students on or above grade level, students slightly behind their peers, students more than one grade level behind their peers)?	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	1	
30.	Does the program specify who should provide instruction for accurate implementation (e.g., special education teacher, general education teacher, paraprofessional, or volunteer)?	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	1	Publisher's Comment: The explicit instruction and consistent lesson design of Journeys enables a wide range of instructional staff to implement the program with fidelity. The tabbed sections of the TE help districts and

									schools plan who provides general and specialized instruction.
31. Does the program specify the instructional setting (e.g., general education classroom, computer lab, or resource room)?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	Publisher's Comment: A comprehensive reading program such as Journeys is typically implemented in a general education classroom. The consistent lesson design and tabbed sections of the TE give schools flexibility in delivering specific instruction in other settings. For example, the Journeys Digital activities may be used in a computer lab and Intervention or ELL instruction may be delivered in a resource room. Professional Development training will provide guidance on implementing Journeys in specific instructional settings.
TOTAL								55	

	HONOLOGICAL/ HONEMIC AWARENESS (PA)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is phonological/phonemic awareness instruction explicit?	Х	X						1	
2.	Is phonological/phonemic awareness instruction systematic?	Х	X						1	
3.	Does phonological/phonemic awareness instruction include coordinated instructional sequences and routines ?	Х	X						2	
4.	Is phonological/phonemic awareness instruction scaffolded?	Х	Х						2	
5.	Does phonological/phonemic awareness instruction include cumulative review ?	Х	X						2	
6.	Are assessments included to measure and monitor progress in phonological/phonemic awareness?	Х	Х						1	Assessment at the beginning of the year and then informal assessments each week.
7.	Is PA only a small portion of the daily lesson?	х	х						1	PA is a part of opening routines and then also part of the daily whole group lesson.
8.	Does each day's lesson focus on only one or two PA skills (as opposed to several)?	х	Х						1	Yes, on specific skills.

9. Are there instructions for PA activities to alert the teacher to student readiness? 10. Does the program contain instructional activities that awareness? 11. Does PA start with larger units (words and syllables) and progress to smaller units (phonemes)? 12. Does PA start with hyming and progress to phoneme isolation, blending, segmenting, and phoneme manipulation? 13. Do students count the number of words in spoken sentences? 14. Are there calification activities (recognition and production)? 15. Are there activities fast involve blending and segmenting syllables in a word? 16. Are there activities that involve blending and segmenting syllables in a word? 17. Are there activities in the volve blending and segmenting syllables in a word? 18. Are there activities for students to blend onsets and mes? PHONEMIC AWARENESS 19. Do activities follow the continuum of word types (beginning with short words that contain two or three phonemes)? 20. Does instruction include physical representations (e.g., clapping, Elkonin boxes with markers, counters, bles, fingers, and auditory cues by the plateabetic principle)? 21. When PA activities are at the phoneme level, do students activities at large this first sound in words and then move to the last sound in words and fine move the last sound in words and then move to the last sound in words and fine move the last sound in words and then move to the last sound in words and fine move to the last sound in words and then move to the last sound in words and fine move to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and in words and from every to the last sound in words and from every to the last sound in words and fr							
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1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	awareness, is PA instruction linked to phonics	х	х			1	
25. Does the program specify when oral language PA activities should be phased out?		х	Х			1	
26. Are the words used in PA activities found in X X X 1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						

subsequent word lists and text readings?						
27. Does the program include a pronunciation guide for the various features of sound production (e.g., stop sounds and continuous sounds)?	X	X			0	Not evident.
28. Do computer-based programs pronounce sounds distinctly, correctly, and without distortion?	X	X			1	Publisher's Comment: The Journeys audio components were carefully recorded and reviewed to ensure distinct and correct pronunciations without distortion.
TOTAL					35	

PI	HONICS (P)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is phonics instruction explicit?	Х	Х	Х	χ	χ	Х	Х	1	
2.	Is phonics instruction systematic?	х	Х	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
3.	Does phonics instruction include coordinated instructional sequences and routines?	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	2	
4.	Is phonics instruction scaffolded?	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	2	
5.	Does phonics instruction include cumulative review?	Х	χ	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
6.	Are assessments included to measure and monitor progress in phonics?	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
7.	Does the program teach both consonants and vowels?	х	х						1	No explicit instruction on long vowels.
8.	Are short vowels taught before long vowels?	x	x						1	Publisher's Comment: Short vowels are taught throughout the year in the regular Kindergarten TE lessons. Beginning with the Kindergarten Unit 4 Extending the Common Core State Standards Teacher Support Booklet, Journeys begins building awareness that vowels are special—in that they can stand for both long and short sounds. These lessons also introduce children to the major long vowel graphemes. Journeys sequences these long vowel "awareness" lessons after the equivalent short vowel has been introduced and applied in decoding. In addition, for teachers who wish to have

										children decode words with long vowels in context, the Fast Track lessons in the Kindergarten Unit 6 Extending the Common Core State Standards Teacher Support Booklet provide a full complement of lessons and decodable stories specifically crafted for Kindergarteners.
9.	Are individual letter-sounds taught first, followed by digraphs, blends, and word families?	Х	Х	х					1	
10.	Are high utility letter-sounds (e.g., /a/, /m/, /s/, /t/, /r/ found in short, one syllable CVC or CCVC words) introduced before low utility letter-sounds (e.g., /x/, /y/, /z/)?	X	X						1	
11.	Are letter-sound correspondences taught to mastery and reviewed cumulatively?	Х	Х						1	
12.	Are students taught an explicit strategy to decode words by their individual sounds?	Х	Х	Х					1	
13.	Do students practice decoding words that contain only those letter-sounds that have been previously taught?	х	Х	х					1	
14.	Once students have mastered a few letter-sounds, do they immediately apply them to reading word lists and short decodable texts?	Х	Х						1	
15.	Are symbol to sound (decoding) and sound to symbol (spelling) taught explicitly?	Х	Х	х	X	X	X	X	2	
16.	Is spelling taught during word learning so students can understand how sounds map onto print?	Х	Х	Х	X	X	X	X	2	
17.	Does instruction progress from simple to more complex concepts (e.g., CVC words before CCCVCC words and single syllable words before multisyllabic words)?	Х	X	х	X	X	X	X	1	
18.	Does instruction follow the continuum of word types (beginning with CV and CVC words), incorporating continuous and stop sounds and blends in an appropriate sequence?	Х	X						2	
19.	Are reviews of previously taught concepts and words frequent and cumulative?	χ	X	Х	X	X	X	X	2	
20.	Is emphasis placed on fluency practice for each phonics component (e.g., sound identification, CVC blending, word recognition, multisyllabic words, and text reading)?	Х	X	х	X	X	X	X	2	
21.	Are there ample decodable texts (familiar and unfamiliar) for students to practice applying their skills with phonic elements?	х	х	х	X				1	

22. Are decodable texts read students to master new s	`	X	X	X	X		1	
23. Does the program clarify can be both regular and		X	X	X	X		1	
24. Are irregular words that a confusing (e.g., saw/was separated?		X	X				1	
	ding strategies for the s (clarifying that the letters amon sounds as well as the	X	X	X	X		1	
26. Are the numbers of high introduced in one lesson		X	X	X	X		1	Begins with one per lesson in Unit 1.
27. Are irregular words pre-to-	aught before students read	X	X	X	X		1	
28. Are difficult, high frequer cumulatively?	cy words reviewed often and	X	X	X	X		1	
ТО	TAL						35	

FL	UENCY (F)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is fluency instruction explicit?	Х	Х	Х	X	Χ	X	Х	1	
2.	Is fluency instruction systematic?	Х	χ	Х	Χ	Χ	Χ	Х	1	
3.	Does fluency instruction include coordinated instructional sequences and routines?	Х	X	х	X	X	X	Х	1	
4.	Is fluency instruction scaffolded?	Х	Х	Х	X	Χ	X	Х	2	
5.	Does fluency instruction include cumulative review ?	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Χ	Χ	Х	2	
6.	Are assessments included to measure and monitor progress in fluency?	Х	X	х	X	X	X	Х	1	Lots of oral informal assessment daily.
7.	Does the program address all dimensions of fluency (speed, accuracy, and prosody)?	х	X	Х	X	X	X	X	1	
8.	Does the program encourage the teacher to model speed, accuracy, and prosody?	х	X	Х	X	X	X	X	2	
9.	Are letter-sounds taught and practiced frequently to promote automaticity?	Х	X						1	
10.	Does fluency practice during letter-sound study and text reading involve the teacher's providing feedback to students?	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	χ	1	

	s fluency instruction integrated into each day's esson?	X	X	Х	X	X	X	X	2	
	s the decoding strategy taught so that it becomes automatic?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
	Are irregular words taught to be recognized automatically?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
	s an explicit strategy taught as students transition rom reading words in lists to reading connected text?	X	X						1	
W	After error correction, are students asked to reread the word, word list, or sentence correctly and then to eread it from the beginning?	X	X	χ	X	X	X	X	1	
	TOTAL								19	

VC	CABULARY (V)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is vocabulary instruction explicit?	Х	χ	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	1	
2.	Is vocabulary instruction systematic ?	х	Х	X	X	Χ	X	X	1	
3.	Does vocabulary instruction include coordinated instructional sequences and routines ?	х	Х	х	х	X	х	Х	1	
4.	Is vocabulary instruction scaffolded ?	х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	2	
5.	Does vocabulary instruction include cumulative review ?	х	χ	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	1	
6.	Are assessments included to measure and monitor progress in vocabulary ?	х	Х	х	х	X	х	Х	1	
7.	Is emphasis placed on listening and speaking vocabulary?	х	Х	х	х	X	Х	Х	1	
8.	Is there emphasis on reading and writing vocabulary?	Х	χ	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
9.	Are students exposed to diverse vocabulary through listening to or reading narrative and expository texts?	х	Х	х	х	X	х	Х	2	
10.	Does the program include frequent use of teacher read-alouds using higher level books with explanation and instruction of key vocabulary?	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	1	
11.	Does vocabulary instruction occur before, during, and after reading?	х	Х	X	X	X	X	X	2	
12.	Are a limited number of words selected for robust, explicit vocabulary instruction?	х	X	х	х	X	Х	Х	1	
13.	Are important, useful, and difficult words taught?	Х	χ	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	1	
14.	Does the instructional routine for vocabulary include:	_								

Introducing the word?	Х	χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Presenting a student-friendly explanation?	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	2	
Clarifying the word with examples?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Checking students' understanding?	Х	χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Are ample opportunities provided to engage in oral vocabulary activities that:									
Repeat exposure to words in rich and multiple contexts?	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Use everyday language to explain word meanings?	Х	χ	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Connect word meanings to prior knowledge?	Х	χ	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
Are students given multiple opportunities to use new words in reading sentences, paragraphs, or longer texts?	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	1	
Is extended instruction provided in multiple contexts to promote word awareness using word banks, vocabulary logs, writing, semantic maps, concept definition mapping, and word classification?	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	1	
Are strategies taught over time to ensure understanding and correct application?	Х	χ	х	X	Х	Х	Х	1	
Are various aspects of word study included (either under vocabulary or word recognition) such as:									
Concepts of word meaning?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
Multiple meanings?	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	1	
Synonyms?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	1	
Antonyms?	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
Is the use of context to gain the meaning of an unfamiliar word kept to a minimum?	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	1	
Is computer technology used to help teach vocabulary?	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1	Publisher's Comment: Journeys online resources at thinkcentral.com help students acquire and apply vocabulary across a range of contexts. Online resources include Vocabulary in Context Cards and Vocabulary Readers. These resources can be used by individual students and small groups or projected for use with a whole class.
TOTAL								33	

C	OMPREHENSION (C)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is comprehension instruction explicit?	Х	χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
2.	Is comprehension instruction systematic?	Х	Χ	Х	X	Х	X	X	1	
3.	Does comprehension instruction include coordinated instructional sequences and routines?	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	1	
4.	Is comprehension instruction scaffolded?	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	Х	2	
5.	Does comprehension instruction include cumulative review?	х	X	х	Х	Х	х	Х	2	
6.	Are assessments included to measure and monitor progress in comprehension?	х	X	х	Х	Х	х	Х	1	
7.	Is learning to determine which strategy to use and why (metacognition) part of instruction?	Х	X	х	Х	Х	х	Х	1	
8.	When a strategy is taught, is it applied frequently so students understand its usefulness?	х	X	х	Х	Х	х	Х	1	
9.	Does program instruction enable students to establish and adjust purposes for reading (e.g., reading to understand, interpret, inform, to enjoy, and to solve problems)?	Х	X	Х	X	х	х	X	1	
10.	Does instruction support the use of multiple, coordinated comprehension strategies?	х	X	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
11.	Are guided and supported cooperative learning groups suggested as an instructional technique?	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	2	
12.	Does instruction begin with the use of short passages?	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	Х	1	
13.	Does instruction emphasize that students have a conceptual understanding of beginning, middle, and end?	Х	X	х	х	х	х	X	1	
14.	Does the program provide prompts for the teacher to guide the students through texts using think-alouds?	х	X	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
15.	Are models of effective questioning techniques (e.g., Bloom's taxonomy) provided to guide and monitor students' comprehension?	х	X	х	x	х	х	X	1	
16.	Are there ample opportunities for students to listen to narrative and expository text?	х	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
17.	Is instruction in narrative and expository text structures explicit?	Х	X	х	Х	X	х	Х	1	
18.	Do texts contain useful and familiar concepts and vocabulary?	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
19.	Are there instructional routines for comprehension strategies for use before, during, and after reading (e.g., prediction, story grammar, summarization,	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	1	

	graphic organizers)?									
20.	Is the "main idea" strategy taught systematically (e.g., using pictures, then individual sentences, then paragraphs, etc.)?	X	X	Х	X	Х	χ	X	1	
21.	Are elements of story grammar (e.g., setting, characters, important events, etc.) taught and used for retelling a story?	X	X	χ	χ	X	X	χ	1	
22.	Does instruction focus on discussion story grammar and comparing stories?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	
23.	Is story grammar introduced systematically, beginning with simple text that gradually becomes more complex?	X	X	χ	χ	Х	χ	χ	1	
24.	Are students taught to use graphic organizers to illustrate relationships among concepts in text (e.g., story maps, Venn diagrams, and semantic maps)?	X	X	х	х	Х	х	Х	1	
25.	Are explicit strategies for interpreting information from charts, graphs, tables, and diagrams taught?	Х	Х	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
26.	After instruction, is there systematic review of:									
	Literal comprehension?	χ	Χ	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	1	
	Retelling?	Х	χ	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
	Main idea?	χ	Χ	Х	Х	χ	Х	Х	1	
	Summarization?	χ	Χ	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	1	
	TOTAL								32	

STANDARDS ALIGNMENT	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
Is clear alignment provided to the Common Core State Standards?	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	X	2	
TOTAL								2	

	OTIVATION AND ENGAGEMENT I&E)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
	es the program direct the teacher in ways to increase dent motivation such as:									
1.	Making reading relevant to students' lives?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	2	
2.	Providing meaningful goals for learning from texts?	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	1	
3.	Making available a variety of choices (e.g., texts and assignments) that align with instruction?	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	1	
4.	Providing opportunities for students to work collaboratively?	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	1	
	TOTAL								5	

A	SSESSMENT (A)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Are assessments included that teachers can use to guide student movement through the program (e.g., screening, progress monitoring, diagnostic, and outcome measures)?	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	1	
2.	Does the program provide teacher guidance in using assessment results to differentiate instruction?	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	2	
3.	Do the assessments identify students who are at risk or already experiencing difficulty learning to read?	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	2	
	TOTAL								5	_

PF (P	ROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT D)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Comments (examples, strengths, concerns, questions)
1.	Is adequate time offered for teachers to learn new concepts and practice what they have learned?	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	1	
2.	Is there a plan for coaches, mentors, peers, or outside experts to provide feedback to teachers and follow-up assistance as they put new concepts into practice?	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	1	
3.	Are teachers taught how to administer and interpret assessments that accompany the program?	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	1	
4.	Is program PD customized to meet participants' varying needs (e.g., first-year teachers, coaches, and principals)?	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	1	
5.	Does the PD provide support (e.g., principal checklists, follow-up, in-class modeling, and a CD for viewing model lessons) to facilitate application of content?	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	1	
	TOTAL								5	